Indo-US initiative on agriculture

*126. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Indo-US initiative on agriculture, US seed companies are being given access to Indian seed gene bank; and

(b) if so, on what terms?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Throwing out of Railway Staff and Passengers from running trains

*127. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of railway staff and passengers having been thrown out from running trains have been reported during 2007;

(b) the number of railway personnel and others who lost their lives and were seriously injured in such cases;

(c) the action taken against those responsible for such cases; and

(d) the compensation paid to those who suffered in such cases by Railways and other authorities, cases-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) 09 cases of throwing out of Railway staff and passengers were reported over Indian Railways during the year 2007;

(b) 05 persons lost their lives, 02 persons suffered injuries and 02 Railway employees suffered injuries in these incidents.

(c) All the cases have been registered by the concerned Government Railway Police under the provisions of Indian Penal Code. In all, 34 persons have been arrested and prosecuted by concerned Government Railway Police.

(d) Compensation is paid only after a decree is awarded on a claim filed in this regard in the Railway Claims Tribunal. So far, no decree has been awarded.

Bird-flu Cases

*128. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of bird-flu have been reported from various parts of the country;